

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02  
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10  
PA-02 PRS-01 /118 W

-----211327Z 123076/42

R 202120Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1760  
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 4118

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG BR  
SUBJECT: BRAZIL - PETROLEUM PRODUCTION JANUARY - APRIL 1977

FOLLOWING MESSAGE PREPARED BY AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO:

1. BRAZILIAN PETROLEUM PRODUCTION FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1977 WAS 4 PERCENT BELOW THAT OF A YEAR AGO. ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY PETROBRAS, TOTAL PRODUCTION WAS 20.191 MILLION BARRELS (THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE FOR 1976 WAS 21.287 MILLION BARRELS). THE DECLINE IS EXPLAINED BY DECREASES IN PRODUCTION FROM THE ON-SHORE BAHIAN WELLS WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET INCREASES FROM THE NORTHEASTERN OFF-SHORE WELLS. IN APRIL, BRAZILIAN PRODUCTION SUPPLIED ONLY 17 PERCENT OF NATIONAL CONSUMPTION, ONE OF THE LOWEST FIGURES IN RECENT YEARS.

2. PETROBRAS OFFICIALS HAD BEEN PREDICTING A 7 PERCENT INCREASE IN PRODUCTION FOR 1977 TO 67.4 MILLION BARRELS. THIS FORECAST, HOWEVER, WAS BASED ON TWO ASSUMPTIONS THAT NOW APPEAR UNREALISTIC: (1) MAINTENANCE OF BAHIAN ON-SHORE PRODUCTION AT 1976 LEVELS; (2) SUBSTANTIAL PRODUCTION 20,000 BPD) FROM

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THE CAMPOS FIELDS BY MID-1977. TRADE SOURCES ARE OF THE OPINION THAT 1977 BAHIAN ON-SHORE PRODUCTION WILL SHOW A DECLINE AND SIGNIFICANT CAMPOS PRODUCTION WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL 1978 AT THE EARLIEST. PETROBRAS OFFICIALS STILL SPEAK OF A 3 PERCENT RISE IN PRODUCTION THIS YEAR BUT EVEN THAT SEEMS DUBIOUS IN LIGHT OF THE RESULTS FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS.

CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Subject:** BRAZIL - PETROLEUM PRODUCTION JANUARY - APRIL 1977 FOLLOWING MESSAGE PREPARED BY AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
**TAGS:** ENRG, BR, PETROBRAS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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